

Water Conservation-Related Regulations

- The Environmental Performance Standards for Plumbing Fixtures became effective in Texas January 1, 1992. The law mandates that only plumbing fixtures that conform to specific water use efficiency standards can be sold in the state. This program is expected to reduce per-capita municipal water consumption by 12 percent by the year 2020.
- 30 TAC Chapter 288 was adopted as TCEQ rule on October 2004 and amended on January 2008. These rules outline the minimum content requirements for municipal, industrial/mining, agriculture/irrigation, wholesale, and other types of water conservation plans.
- 30 TAC Chapter 297.50 contains the requirement that the Commission must consider information in the applicant's water conservation plan in determining whether any feasible alternative to the requested appropriation exists, whether the requested amount of appropriation is reasonable and necessary for the proposed use, and to ensure that the applicant will use diligence to avoid waste and conserve water. Based on this review, the Commission will determine whether to deny or grant the requested appropriation.
- 30 TAC Chapter 295.9 contains the requirement that a conservation plan that meets the requirements of 30 TAC Chapter 288 must be submitted with all applications for new water rights, and with certain types of amendments to existing water rights.